

Message Text

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PASS LABOR FOR SECRETARY DUNLOP, SEGALL, PERSONS AND QUACKENBUSH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO

SUBJECT: ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S SUGGESTIONS FOR SECRETARY OF
LABOR'S ADDRESS TO ILO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ILO DG BLANCHARD ASKED MISSION TO PASS FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS
FOR ADDRESS TO PLENARY OF ILO ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO SECRETARY
DUNLOP.

A. IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF SECRETARY COULD STATE WHAT US
EXPECTS FROM ILO IN NEXT FEW YEARS AND ALSO WHAT IT DOES
NOT EXPECT. CLEAR US STATEMENT WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS
RENEWAL OF US INTEREST IN ILO AND WOULD ALSO HAVE
USEFUL IMPACT ON OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES.

B. SECRETARY MIGHT WISH TO STATE US REACTION TO
CHAPTER IN DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT ENTITLED "ACTION TO
BE TAKEN", ESPECIALLY IN AREAS OF WORKING CONDITIONS,
SAFETY AND HEALTH.

C. BLANCHARD THEN LISTED FOLLOWING BROADER ISSUES WHICH
HE FEELS ARE IMPORTANT AND ON WHICH SECRETARY MIGHT
COMMENT.

1. POSSIBILITY OR DESIRABILITY IN THE LONGER RUN

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OF MAINTAINING FULL EMPLOYMENT OBJECTIVES ESTABLISHED

IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES IN POST-WAR PERIOD. IF US ANSWER IS POSITIVE THEN SECRETARY MIGHT DISCUSS HOW THIS MIGHT BE ACHIEVED. IF US FEELS THAT THESE OBJECTIVES ARE OBSOLETE, SECRETARY MIGHT DISCUSS WAYS OF COPING WITH LOWER LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT.

2. DISCUSSION OF MAIN SOCIAL DRAWBACKS OF INFLATION IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND METHODS OF KEEPING INFLATION WITHIN TOLERABLE LIMITS. SECRETARY MIGHT FOCUS ON LABOR MANAGEMENT RELATIONS AND WELFARE POLICY.

3. DESIRABILITY OF SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION OF WORK STOPPAGES ARISING FROM COLLECTIVE BARGAINING DISPUTES, PARTICULARLY OF INCIDENTS OF WILDCAT STRIKES.

4. NEED FOR LONG-TERM ANALYSIS SO THAT POLICIES ON INFLATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS CAN BE MADE LESS VULNERABLE TO VOLATILE AND AD HOC POLITICAL DECISIONS. BLANCHARD SUGGESTED THAT ILO WOULD BE PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE VEHICLE FOR THIS ANALYSIS BECAUSE OF ITS TRIPARTITE STRUCTURE.

D. SECRETARY MIGHT WISH TO COMMENT ON HOW INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MIGHT COOPERATE IN ILO IN ORDER TO REDUCE MASS POVERTY IN THIRD WORLD. FOR INSTANCE, WHILE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT CURRENT UNEMPLOYMENT AND ADJUSTMENT DIFFICULTIES IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, SHOULD ANYTHING BE DONE TO EXPAND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT IN LDCS BY LARGE SCALE INCREASE OF THEIR LABOR INTENSIVE EXPORTS TO INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES? BLANCHARD SUGGESTED SECRETARY'S REMARKS COULD SHOW US NOT INSENSITIVE TO PROBLEM OF POVERTY IN THIRD WORLD IF ILO TAKES RESPONSIBLE AND SERIOUS APPROACH. BLANCHARD AGAIN STRESSED UTILITY OF ILO TRI-PARTITE STRUCTURE IN CONSIDERING THESE ISSUES. DALE

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